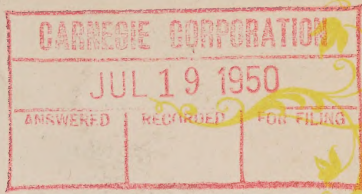


The Lord's Prayer



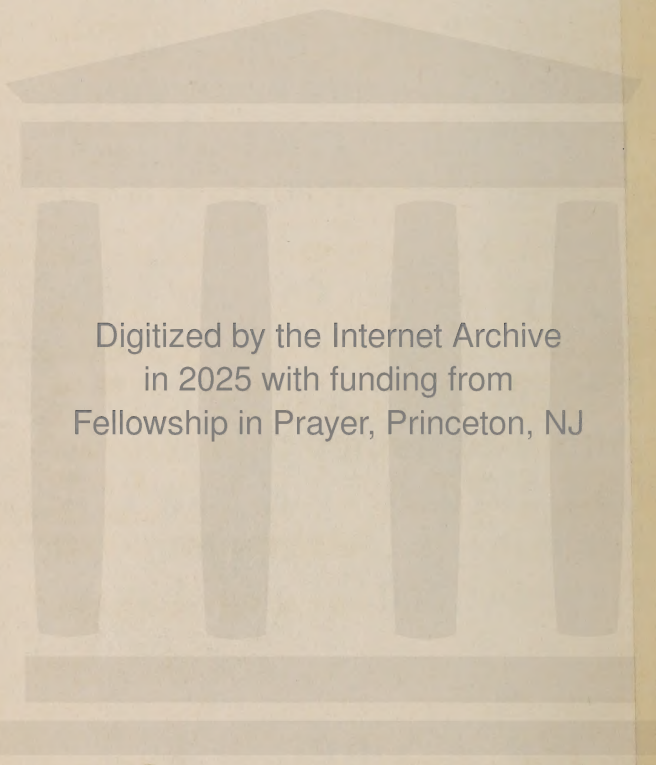
Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Fellowship In Prayer

22 East 29th Street
New York 16, N. Y.



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FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER
(Incorporated)
22 East 29th Street
New York 16, N. Y.

Volume I

June 1950

Number 6

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We take pride in using the Lord's Prayer for our cover page this month. The note of appreciation on the back cover, referring to the universal characteristics of the prayer, is significant. However, we are more impressed by its adaptability to every faith believing in God. In fact, this is the reason for using it.

Can it be that the Master of Christianity sensed the need for a universal prayer for mankind? In any event, it combines all of the fundamentals which God has inspired us to believe as essential for our petitions to reach His Throne of Grace:

"Our Father which art in heaven" - Acceptance of God as our Divine Father.

"Hallowed be thy name" - Adoration of the godhead.

"Thy kingdom come" - The recognition of a universal brotherhood of mankind with God as Ruler.

"Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" - Our complete acceptance of the Divine Will.

"Give us this day our daily bread" - A condensed appeal for our material needs.

"And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" - Acknowledgment of our sins and recognition of the conditions for forgiveness.

"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil" - An appeal to the Spirit to guide us through the day's perplexing duties.

"For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever" - Recognizing the coming of the Kingdom through power of the Spirit, to the glory of God.

Amen.

INCORPORATION

Incorporation papers for FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER were filed in Albany, New York on June 5, 1950. Signers of the application were the following:

Sydney D. Maddock, William Hung, Joseph Thompson, Kathryn G. Brown and Carl A. Evans.

Paragraph "2" of the Certificate of Incorporation reads as follows:

"The purposes for which this corporation is to be formed are exclusively in the interest of religion and for benevolent purposes, to wit:

"To promote the practice of prayer among all religious faiths whose fundamental belief is in God, regardless of race, creed or color, and whose tenets include the universal attributes of truth, honesty, justice and mercy, that thereby there may arise a closer relation to Almighty God and a deeper spirit of fellowship among mankind."

Paragraph "3" reads:

"In furtherance of any of its objects or purposes, the Corporation shall have power to acquire by deed, gift, devise, grant, purchase, or otherwise, property of every kind and nature whatsoever; to hold, invest and reinvest the same, and to devote the said property and the income therefrom to the above-mentioned purposes or any of them."

The signers of the Certificate of Incorporation are also Directors of the Corporation, and there is plenty of room for additions.

* * * * *

ACTIVITIES

Through the generosity of the management of "Guideposts," an article, concerning our program, appeared in the June issue of that periodical. As a result, inquiries have been coming in from all parts of the country. Some communications require special handling, but all receive copies of an outline for the purpose of establishing Fellowship In Prayer Circles. As practically every inquiry shows a deep interest in the program, it would seem that there has been a very decided increase in our praying constituency. Some letters state that prayer groups have been formed and request guidance in developing and spreading the idea.

An interesting sidelight is a letter from an administrative staff member of a mid-western university who says that she has never been able to escape the conviction which came from reading the article descriptive of our work, written by Miss Mary Hornaday in "The Christian Science Monitor" on December 17, 1949. This article was also read into "The Congressional Record" of March 14, 1950. This person states, "It has changed the course of my life." She has likewise been spreading abroad the idea in every manner possible.

We have consistently maintained that, through prayer, the individual would be changed and by the multiplication of this process, a spiritual renaissance would be achieved.

The above bears out the statement of Archbishop Yü-Pin who said, upon his return from South America, that the power of The New York Times' PRAYER article could never be measured as he had heard about it from unexpected sources.

Efforts to open a spiritual program in selected localities have been unabated, but there must be more concrete assurance of local interest before funds are spent for publicity. We know this will develop by the Grace of God.

ACTIVITIES (Cont'd)

Likewise, the search for sponsorship or leadership has not lessened. One to whom approach has been made, quipped back, "You are searching for someone with the spiritual power of Christ, the energy of Mohammed, the calm discernment of Confucius and the mystic ingenuity of a Buddha; and there is no such person." Maybe not. But someone or a group will arise who will catch the vision of a mass of God-fearing people quietly joining with Him in prayer. This will inspire some to throw life and means into the balance with God. Then the clarion call will resound throughout the earth and enough of every faith will arise to stem irreligion and unrighteousness. It must come with a uniting of the forces of religion. Pray for the coming of such a time.

As we write, comes a letter from Pakistan revealing the sympathetic reception of FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER. The seed has been sown elsewhere in the Far East. Let us also pray for God's blessing upon those who can nurture the growth.

One encouraging development is the sign of unity in the Mohammedan world. Present reports indicate that the efforts to stir up the Moslems against western civilization is proving a boomerang. While the Arab Collective Security Pact recently signed is far from ideal, still it is a long step in the right direction.

Need we report that the days, yea, even the nights have been filled with activities in this great cause. Surely more hands, feet and brains are needed!

Interestingly enough, Dr. Lynn White addressed the Marin County, California, June Fellowship meeting, using the Lord's Prayer as his theme. He did not know of plans to use it on this publication.

* * * * *

WHAT OTHERS THINK

"There must be not alone a spiritual regeneration, but a moral one, too. A constant, or at least a now-and-then reading of the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount would help us all, especially if we live up to them."

Bernard M. Baruch.

"I believe Prayer is a form of meditation which lifts the mind into a spiritual atmosphere. When large groups of people pray simultaneously the results can't be anything but good. Material things are forgotten for a while. There is a force for good engendered in the world which is very powerful--because nothing is so strong as human thought.

Every person has his own definition for Prayer. Probably not many of us could agree as to its real meaning. But certainly a Fellowship In Prayer can lift us to better ways of thinking, which has real spiritual significance. It would be a way of groping towards God and Good--a reaching for the stars--for which I think men and women will always yearn."

Mrs. Walter Ferguson, Columnist.

"This is a time for unity against a situation created in part by ideology and in part by the current practice of that ideology which would kill civilization and all religions. Obviously this is the time for a united front."

Wallace B. Donham.

"I appreciate the stirring advertisement which you enclosed. I couldn't be in closer agreement as to what is now required of us."

Stanley High.

WHAT OTHERS THINK (Cont'd)

"A people are doomed if they think only of security and not of mission; if they seek safety in steel and not in sword of the spirit. Our future greatness and our power lie, *** in demonstrating, contrastingly and startlingly, the infinitely greater worth of practices that derive from a spiritual view of the nature of man."

"A people survive in freedom if their members are courageous, resourceful and self-reliant, if each carries a share of responsibility for common problems, if they are individually and collectively adaptable to changing conditions, if they have faith and vision and put spiritual values ahead of material values and if they keep control of their own destiny. I pray that we shall continue to be that kind of a people."

John Foster Dulles.

"If we do not now devise some greater and more equitable system Armageddon will be at our door. The problem basically is theological and involves a spiritual re-
crudescence and improvement of human character that will synchronize with our almost matchless advance in science, art, literature and all material and cultural developments of the past two thousand years. It must be of the spirit if we are to save the flesh."

General Douglas MacArthur.

* * * * *

More thanks to "Guideposts" for the article on FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER, appearing in the June issue of that publication. We congratulate "Guideposts" management on the fine progress which has been made and for the wide coverage it has attained.

* * * * *

WHY NOT TRY GOD?

"Sometime ago, while browsing in a bookshop, my eye was attracted to the caption of a little book, Why Not Try God? It was written by a rather famous woman who lives in Hollywood. My interest was stimulated because Hollywood has urged us to try many things, but never God. Here was the story of a modern person, whose conception of God does not seem to be adequate, but who found Him to be an empowering presence in the crushing experiences of life.

"Is not our failure in religious experience due pretty much to our acceptance of God as traditional truth and not as a functioning fact? We may have made an initial discovery of Him, but through devotional neglect He seems far removed and almost unreal. For some He becomes the problem of life rather than its solution. However, He becomes real only as we relate our aspirations, our longings, our fears, and our hopes to Him. Inner personal experience is the daily laboratory where God is tried and proven, and where He in turn reveals His nearness."

Lloyd Ellis Foster.

The above quotation suggests a reading from Isaiah 26:
3-4:

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace,
whose mind is stayed on thee: because
he trusteth in thee.

"Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in
the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."

* * * * *

GOLDEN RULE IS BASIS

Mr. Edward J. Meeman, Editor of "The Memphis Press-Scimitar" prepared a comparative list of ten most prominent world religions and their corresponding statements regarding The Golden Rule. Parenthetically we have added a basic sentence about each religion. They are in alphabetical order of religions:

1. **BUDDHISM:** "Hurt not others with that which pains yourself."
(Insists on the necessity of pity, kindness and patience for salvation and gaining "nirvana").
2. **CHRISTIANITY:** "All things whatsoever you would that men should do to you do ye even so to them; for this is the law of the prophets."
(Revelation of God through Jesus Christ wherein spiritual fellowship with God is attained).
3. **CONFUCIANISM:** "Is there any one maxim that ought to be acted upon throughout one's whole life? Surely the maxim of loving kindness is such--do not unto others what you would not they should do unto you."
(Based on ancestral worship, teaching filial piety but founder believed in "Heaven").
4. **HEBRAISM** (the Jewish religion): "What is hurtful to yourself do not to your fellowman. That is the whole of the Torah and the remainder is but commentary."
(Based on the Old Testament, devout belief in Jehovah God. Messiah still to come).
5. **HINDUISM:** "This is the sum of duty: Do naught to

OF TEN GREAT RELIGIONS

others which if done to thee would cause thee pain."

(Ideal is to escape conscious existence and to gain "the impersonal spirit" of the world).

6. ISLAM (Mohammedanism): "No one of you is a believer until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself."
("There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is his prophet").
7. JAINISM: "In happiness and suffering, in joy and grief we should regard all creatures as we regard our own self, and therefore should refrain from inflicting upon others such injury as would appear undesirable to us if inflicted upon ourselves."
(Exaltation of saints above other gods and seeks a spiritual life in some mansion of the Blessed).
8. SIKHISM: "As thou deemest thyself, so deem others."
(Believes in one God. Abolishes class distinction. Once a powerful military organization).
9. TAOISM: "Regard your neighbor's gain as your own gain; and regard your neighbor's loss as your own loss."
(Believes contemplation and reason, avoidance of force are means to regeneration).
10. ZOROASTRIANISM: "That nature is good only when it shall not do another what is not good for its own self."
(Teaches ceaseless war against evil spirits in darkness. "Ormâzd" created man to help gain the "good kingdom").

POLITICS? NO!

Some letters which come to us makes necessary a statement to clarify our position politically.

FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER definitely has no political affiliation or aspirations. We recognize that, to a degree, birth determines one's religion and politics, although arguments over either can be heated. Thus, there are good reasons for not bringing politics into a prayer program.

Yet politics will not let us alone and at times we are put to the test to determine the purpose of some writers or callers. Occasionally we are suspicious of the motives actuating some interested souls.

At other times we are forced to listen to evidence regarding irreligious activities with political leanings. For instance, comes one from a first-hand source that Russia fears no nation on earth as she is in possession of all of our top secrets. But, she does fear a "united church," as she does not know the power of a unity of religions.

Then comes news from the Near East that the Kremlin is trying to arouse the Moslem world against western civilization.

From another reliable source, we learn that communism is maintained at its high rate of efficiency in Russia by the presence of well educated Americans who have gone there and espoused the communistic cause. And just to add another picture, the testimony of J. Edgar Hoover (of the FBI) on April 3rd before a Senate Committee was released to the Press on June 8. He said, "There is a potential fifth column of 540,000 people (in USA) dedicated to the communistic philosophy." And again, "There is less likelihood for a native-born citizen to attract suspicion than there is for an alien, because he blends into the very background which he would destroy."

All such, "native born" or not, automatically clas

themselves on the side of irreligion and against God. To all such, we issue a challenge to face the Spirit of God knowing full well that they will refuse, as "sinners cannot stand in the congregation of the righteous."

It is too late to seek the regeneration of such perverts, but there is time to examine ourselves, we who profess to be followers of any religion. (Although here too, "it is later than we think"). Personal vices may destroy a man's soul but social vices devastate and benumb a community, a nation, a church.

The very opposite of truth, honesty, justice and mercy are being woven into the fabric of our lives today, and there is no escaping the consequences unless there is a rightabout-face.

We are not in politics of any sort, but wherever irreligion exists, we invoke God's Spirit to arrest it.

Definitely we aspire to deepen the spiritual life of every believer in God be he "doctor, lawyer, merchant, priest" or statesman; and FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER is going to be of value to the extent that it does reach people in every walk of life.

Let us look inwardly and upwardly to find grace to recognize that God is our Father and that He may be living in the heart of our next-door neighbor. If not, why not?

* * * * *

"There is a destiny that makes us brothers,
None goes his way alone;
All that we send into the lives of others
Comes back into our own."

Markham.

* * * * *

A NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL

After Report Number 5 was issued, we received permission from the management of The New York Times to copy the following editorial which appeared on April 25, 1950. The thinking is so pertinent to any study of irreligion today that it finds a hearty welcome in this Report, and we trust our readers will appreciate its appearance. We are grateful to the TIMES for granting permission to reproduce it.

COMMUNISM VS. CHURCH

"The struggle of Russian totalitarian communism against the various churches and against religion may be approaching a climax, at least in Eastern Europe. The latest news is of the vigorous counter-attack on communism by sorely tried Protestant and Catholic churchmen in the Soviet zone of Germany. There is a still confused conflict in Poland, but clearly the situation is critical. The activities of the Czech and Hungarian Governments against the clergy and churches have filled many columns of news recently.

"This whole struggle of East and West is throwing up some of the most profound spiritual problems in history. It would be a fatal mistake for Western countries to think of the expansion and pressures of Soviet Communism simply in terms of territories, countries, political forces, military threats, espionage or propaganda. We are in the midst of a conflict as fundamental in its way as that of Christianity against the pagan world. Communism, like fascism, puts itself forward as a substitute for religion. In academic circles one hears much talk these days comparing in a technical or mechanical sense the spread of communism with the spread of Christianity in the first few centuries A. D. If there could be any basis for such comparison, it would only become possible through a failure of the

democratic world to realize its danger and to make the truth about communism known. If communism really were a movement to spread brotherhood, peace and the fair sharing of the world's goods, it would in the first place not be a conflict with many religious doctrines; and in the second, it would not be Russian totalitarian communism.

"The challenge we face is on two fronts. It is doctrinal in that Marxian communism is atheistic and materialistic, and it is political through the workings of the totalitarian system, which cannot countenance any force that is not completely controlled by the state. On the doctrinal side, communism is as much against Protestantism, Judaism and Mohammedanism as it is against Catholicism. We hear so much about the attacks on the Roman Catholic Church in Eastern Europe these days that we are apt to overlook the scope of the attack. It is another case of not asking "for whom the bell tolls"; it tolls for all of us."

* * * * *

I arise on my way;
With God's strength for my stay,
God's might to protect me,
God's wisdom to direct me,
God's eye to be my providence,
God's ear to take my evidence,
God's word my words to order,
God's hand to be my warder,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield and buckler o'er me,
Whether far I fare, or near,
Alone or with a multitude.

St. Patrick.

* * * * *

THE FUTURE

We feel called upon to repeat our proposed schedule of activities for the benefit of newcomers in FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER. The following list of objectives was established early last fall:

1. Advertisements in newspapers in carefully selected localities.
2. Follow-up on inquiries from such advertisements.
3. Enlistment of newspaper syndicates and editorial writers.
4. The cooperation of users of contract space in publications.
5. Use of the religious press.
6. Contact radio - both the operating companies and commercial users.
7. Descriptive literature to every pastor, priest and rabbi in America.
8. Contact all private schools in the world, including America.
9. Press the Prayer Program upon leaders of every religious faith.
10. Approach religiously inclined foundations for assistance.

Development in every area, as listed above, will be pushed to the utmost as funds and personnel are available. Some progress has been made in every item, but as we review the schedule, we recognize the vast amount of work to be done. Wonderfully enough, however, at any sign of delay, there always emerges a corresponding gleam of hope and encouragement.

The help of individuals in gifts and prayers is a vital necessity and, now that we are incorporated, the pursuit for someone or a group of individuals who will catch the gleam and give substantial sponsorship will be pushed. Surely God is working in such a way that there will be effective results in His name. We have

repeated evidence of this in many ways.

We cannot repeat too often the objective of FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER. It is the searching for God as our Father in the consciousness that through His guidance, we will come to realize that we are all one regardless of our religious belief, and that we are aspiring to truth, honesty, justice and mercy, which are fundamental in every religious faith of importance.

If we felt, last fall, that there was a need for believers in God getting together in prayer, we are now overwhelmingly convinced that there is a demand for it. Were we to list the reports which come to us covering present day ethics, they would not be believed. We are confident that did the pastors, priests and rabbis of any sizeable community review these findings, they would, as a body, rise up and band together in a crusade against vice and its ramifications.

Our aim is to lay before the American people, as well as the people of the entire world, at a proper time and manner, some of these facts to form a background for future activities. Religion can cure the evils of this world when it rids itself of its own inhibitions and launches forth into untried seas of endeavor.

For the present there will be a complete mailing to all on our lists, dwelling upon the advances made this spring and calling for consecrated cooperation. Letters to a group of 34 foundations are in process.

There must have come a special blessing upon all who have supported FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER, and we pray God for added enrichment to your lives. Would that we could convey to others what they are missing through not participating in this deeply spiritual act of sharing and praying. If you have friends who wish literature on "Prayer in Your Community" we shall be glad to send copies.

In this "Report" we have tried to meet the demands of the times, but we will welcome most humbly any suggestions which you may have to offer.

A PRAYER

Dear God, our Father, we thank thee for all human relationships. Teach us to find the richness of these relationships in the so-often unexplored places, the majesty of a human spirit set down in a sphere of life racially or economically or socially unknown to us. Let us know where beauty is. Grant that we shall seek truth and cleave to it as a way of life. Hasten the day when distinctions of class and race will lose their meaning and the relationships of people will be governed by perfect love. Make strong in us the ideal of the brotherhood of all thy children. Strengthen our hand as it clasps the hand of another and another and another until we, too, have caught the indelible vision of that new earth where all nations and kindreds and peoples and tongues shall stand before thy throne as brothers. Amen.

Prepared by Mrs. John Hastie Brown
Syracuse, New York

PONDER ON THIS- - "Make no mistake about it. We are at the crossroads of civilization. We stand on the brink of the greatest peace the world has ever enjoyed--or the most terrible nightmare of misery and chaos that mankind has ever known."

Father James G. Keller in
"You Can Change The World"

Fellowship In Prayer Reports are designed especially for those who have contributed toward the cost of operation. However, upon request, a copy will be sent to any interested person. Additional copies will be furnished at 5¢ per copy.

* * * * *

UNITED PRAYER

UNITED PRAYER, is like a great and golden flame,
A gleaming promise, something warm and bright,
A deep sweet rapture, lifting God's most Holy Name
Out of world-darkness, into glowing light!

UNITED PRAYER, is like a clear pure spring on
mountainside
Gathering in volume and strength, with melting snow,
Sparkling with tiny rivulets, that join the rising
tide
And as a mighty river to the sea shall flow!

UNITED PRAYER, is like a rock, a solid cornerstone
To build a world-foundation, strong and firm;
Faiths lofty temple, where God dwells alone
Before whose presence, satan's hosts must squirm.

UNITED PRAYER, is like a chain of purest gold
Binding all nations in true Brotherhood;
Thus trust, love, understanding, fully can unfold,
Linking the world's great hearts, for common good!

UNITED PRAYER, is like a friendly, outstretched hand
Across the seas to find the brother soul;
To ban dark fear, save from destruction every land,
Earth at peace in God, this is our common goal!

By Hilda Livingston Roosevelt.

(Written especially for "Fellowship In Prayer")

"The Lord's Prayer, for a succession of solemn thoughts, for fixing the attention upon a few great
for suitableness to every condition, for sufficiency, for conciseness without obscurity, for the weight
importance of its petition, is without an equal or rival."—Paley.